Title: Determining the joint effect of obesity and diabetes on functional disability at 3-months and on all-cause mortality at 1-year following an ischemic stroke

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Author’s response to reviews:

Point-by-Point Response

Manuscript: Determining the joint effect of obesity and diabetes on functional disability at 3-months and on all-cause mortality at 1-year following an ischemic stroke.

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We thank the Editor for her thoughtful and helpful review of BMC Endocrine Disorders Manuscript Number BEND-D-18-00041R1. Our responses to each are listed below.

Comments from the Editor:

Issue #1: Please change the “Introduction” heading to “Background” and “Materials and Methods” to “Methods”

Response: We have modified the headings where appropriate (Background, line 55, page 5; Methods, line 94, page 6).
Issue #2: Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your manuscript. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by the IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation.

Response: Per the protocol supplement to the Broderick et al. (2013) article titled “Endovascular therapy after intravenous t-PA versus t-PA alone for stroke,” the last of the stated exclusion criteria (p. 26 of the protocol) pertained to inability to obtain informed consent:

Informed consent is not or cannot be obtained. For example, obtunded patients are not automatically excluded from the study. However, if the next of kin or legal guardian (i.e., the individual legally empowered in the state where the consent is obtained) cannot provide consent, randomization and entry into the study could not proceed.

Based on this information, we have included the following statement (Methods, lines 105-106, page 7).

Prior to enrollment, written informed consent was obtained from subjects (or a legal representative).[41,42]

Issue #3: We have noticed that the authors (Keith Borg and Gayenell Magwood) are missing from the Authors’ contributions section of the Declarations.

Response: These authors have been added where appropriate to the Authors’ contributions section of the Declarations (Authors’ contributions, lines 345-348, pages 20-21).

Issue #4: Figure files should contain only the image/graphic, as well as any associated keys/annotations. If titles/legends are present within the figure files, please remove them. Please provide figure titles/legends under a separate heading of ‘Figure Legends’ after the References. If Figure titles/legends are within the main text of the manuscript, please move them.
Response: We have removed any titles/legends within Figure 1. We have provided the figure
titles/legends under the separate heading ‘Figure Legends’ after References (Figure Legends,
lines 486-490, page 27).

Title: Distribution of modified Rankin Scale scores at 3-months following an ischemic stroke.

Legend: Distribution of scores on the modified Rankin Scale at 3-months following an ischemic
stroke according to obesity and diabetes in 632 IMS III subjects.

mRS – modified Rankin Scale; IMS III – Interventional Management of Stroke III